

To Promote Education, Training and Professional Development in All Aspects of Military Comptrollership

### **May 2016**

## **Washington Chapter**



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### **Quick Links:**

#### **ASMC:**

- ASMC Local Chapter
- ASMC National Chapter
- CDFM Information
- EDFMTC/DoD Cert
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- Join ASMC Today
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#### Comptroller:

- Air Force
- Army
- DFAS
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#### **Congressional:**

- CBO
- House Appropriations
- House Armed Services
- Senate Appropriations
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- Thomas.gov

## **President's Message**

Gretchen V. Anderson



Are you **PREPARING TO LAUNCH?** I hope so, because that's the theme of this year's National Professional Development Institute, coming up June 1 through 3 in Orlando, Florida. The theme dovetails nicely with the June 30 deadline for many of us to attain our FM Certification (and let me say, CONGRATULATIONS to all of you who have already achieved your certification!). This year, the National PDI program will help you achieve your goals, with 17 mini-courses aligned to the DoD Financial Management Certification Program competencies and associated proficiency levels, and more than 50 financial management, audit, acquisition, and workforce management workshops.

That means there's truly something for each of us, whether it's support for attaining initial certification or Continuous Education & Training credits for biannual renewal of certification. And that doesn't even include the opportunity to network with the Department's financial management leadership, topical thought leaders, and contacts you've made across the miles and years. I'm looking forward to it and I hope to see you there.

Meantime, your Washington Chapter continues its busy schedule. We're looking forward to hearing from Mr. Joseph B. Marshall, Jr., the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management & Comptroller), at our <u>luncheon</u> on May 19. You'll also want to keep tabs on upcoming events elsewhere in this newsletter and on the Chapter's website to make sure you put our community service, golf tournament, social events, and education opportunities on your schedule.

Remember, this is YOUR Chapter. Let us know what you'd like to get out of it. Your Service representatives and Committee Chairs are interested in making the Washington Chapter the ASMC leader in meeting members' needs!

Gretchen





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| Date     | Upcoming Events / Sponsor / Speaker                           | Location             |
|----------|---|----------------------|
| 19 May   | Luncheon/Navy/Mr. Joe Marshall                                | Westin, Crystal City |
| 1-3 June | National PDI  | Orlando, FL          |
| 16 June  | Luncheon/Air Force/New Officer Elections & Scholarship Awards | Westin, Crystal City |

### **Luncheon Recap**



The **April Luncheon** featured Mr. David DeVries, the Department of Defense Principal Deputy Chief Information Officer (DoD PDCIO) as the guest speaker who spoke on, "Partnering to Change DoD IT/Cyber." Mr. DeVries provided the audience with an overview of the DoD Information Technology (IT) environment and a detailed breakdown of the DoD CIO's top priorities.

While discussing the IT environment, Mr. DeVries explained that the DoD IT infrastructure must be robust enough to serve a user base of nearly 8 million across the world utilizing more than

than 10,000 systems on millions of computers and devices. Simultaneously, the IT systems supported by the infrastructure must be audit compliant while providing appropriate cybersecurity, all in an increasingly unstable fiscal environment.

Mr. DeVries outlined his office's priorities: Cybersecurity, IT modernization, information-sharing with coalition partners, industry partnering, and innovation. He explained that partnering with corporations and sharing best practices and innovative developments will ultimately result in lower IT costs for all parties. The Deputy CIO also described how DoD could lower its IT bill by operating fewer systems, which he believed would result from modernizing and innovating. Mr. DeVries closed out his presentation by answering questions from the audience.

## **Next Luncheon**





The next Chapter Luncheon will be on **Thursday, 19 May, 11:30 am** at the Westin in Crystal City. Our guest speaker will be Mr. Joseph B. Marshall Jr, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management & Comptroller). Mr. Marshall assists in the oversight of budget formulation and execution of over \$165 billion annually for the Navy and United States Marine Corps; for the financial systems, reporting, policy and auditing of the associated financial transactions; and for the cost estimating for the Department of the Navy. Prior to assuming his current responsibilities, he was the Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management & Comptroller). In this role he provided expertise and advice on programs and initiatives with the goal of improving financial management functions for the Department of the Navy. Sign up here today!





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### **National Capital Region PDI**







### We held the largest National Capital Region PDI ever on 9 March 2016 - over 1500 strong!

The overwhelming support and advocacy shown by our DoD FM community for this event -- amidst challenging times -- enabled us to have an outstanding slate of presenters and great day of professional development, dialogue, and collaboration across government and industry.

Our keynote speakers included the Honorable Mike McCord, USD-C and the Honorable Peter Levine, DCMO. And thanks to our terrific committee members for the tremendous work! Hope to see you again next year.

Our registration website will open 1 December 2016 - PLEASE REGISTER EARLY to ensure attendance. The ASMC Washington website is <a href="http://www.washington-asmc.org/">http://www.washington-asmc.org/</a> for further information on membership and events.

Remember to challenge the status quo, simplify, and ensure fiscal readiness...

receiving up-to-date information.

### "Our time, our mission!"

If you are not receiving ASMC Washington Chapter email announcements or would like to provide feedback on the revised newsletter format, please send an email to: <a href="mailto:announcements@washington-asmc.org">announcements@washington-asmc.org</a>. Also, please consider putting in your personal emails to help us preclude Department/Component firewall security issues.





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## **Washington Chapter**





### How Identifying and Adopting Best Practices Can Improve Performance.

By Ginger Schmid

Describe best practices from your career that may improve Department of Defense (DOD) financial management.

Two 'best practices' from my career which, if regularly adopted, may improve the Department's financial management are for each employee with a role in the programming, budgeting, execution, or auditing of DoD appropriations to compile and maintain a set of desk procedures and to host or attend recurring program working groups. These two practices are the bookends to funding organized and efficient program execution.

While each manifestation of 'desk procedures' will vary widely from profession to profession, the general definition is a consolidated document detailing how each recurring task is performed. Specific content could include 'how-to' instructions, references to overarching regulations (such as from the Financial Management Regulation) and guidance, including excerpts and citations (such as from the National Defense Authorization Act), leadership preferences, office norms, brief historic financial summary tables, etc. The practice of documenting the desk procedures can help a professional develop a 'Tooth-to-Tail' understanding of the funding flow of any funds under their charge, regardless of their position within the process. Lastly, socializing desk procedures with peers can often help identify errors or omissions and share best practices amongst teams or groups.

Below is an example of a basic tree of key elements of financial management which could be used to create desk procedures:

- What is the period of performance/purpose/amount of these funds?
- What is the recent history of the Funds? (Budget Requests, Appropriations, Execution Rates, Execution Constraints) What will the program need in the future? When does my program sunset?
- Who are the executing organizations and primary points of contact (including primary contracting mechanisms- Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request/Pseudo-Foreign Military Sales Case/Acquisition and Cross Services Agreements)
- What are the primary reporting mechanisms of my funding within the Department?
- In which Departmental systems and reports does the program appear?
- · Who should be notified in case of an error?
- Do I have any recurring data calls associated to reporting?
- When do critical events or due dates occur? (Build a timeline.)

If possible, breakdown the desk procedures for recurring financial management projects or procedures into as many explicitly detailed separable sections as possible. This will facilitate for easier updates to the document as either program regulations are updated or standard operating procedures evolve. Also, maintaining a step-by-step presentation of recurring responsibilities allows a financial manager or analyst to prioritize their effort and time, while not being overwhelmed while operating a very low level of detail. Conversely, sometimes a financial manager doesn't need to be the data or reporting wizard, only to know them. That is where the second 'best practice' of hosting or attending periodic working groups can benefit DoD financial management. (continued on next page)





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**Continued**: A group of program analysts and managers who meets to seek understanding of the trajectory and complexity of the execution of their funding (and to monitor the resulting data) will be far more effective than the same employees communicating through email. They are more likely to foresee constraints, identify critical data errors, and maintain the continuity and consistency of any given mission. Working groups could be as simple as a biweekly teleconference or as direct as project specific meetings. This should not be confused with team or office regular meetings, but these meetings are instead time which can be fully devoted to current and emergent needs of a specific program or project.

Convening frequent in-person (or teleconference) meetings, when combined with each member of the organization having a detailed desk procedures document compiled for their respective portfolio, can facilitate a far more robust financial monitoring and execution at both the individual and project levels. These actions will require additional effort initially, but may, in the long run, make many future endeavors easier and provide valuable insight on overcoming the challenges faced within the Department of Defense. Whether an individual is a contractor, civilian, or military, each person's role, and ownership of their role, is critical as the Department moves forward toward increased transparency in a constrained fiscal environment.



**About the Author**: Ginger Schmid serves as a Budget Analyst for the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) Operations directorate. She is a Certified Defense Financial Manager and has a Level 3 DoD Financial Management Certification. She holds a master's degree in Business Administration from George Mason University and a bachelor's degree in Business Management from the Midwestern State University.

### **Chapter News**



ASMC 2015 National Corporate Member of the Year!

Washington Chapter of ASMC is on Facebook.

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**Kearney & Company**, **P.C**. (Kearney) is currently the largest Certified Public Accounting firm dedicated exclusively to Federal financial management. They rely heavily on supporting ASMC's mission to provide education, training, development and advancement of the profession of military comptrollership in their staff and in the military. In keeping with this mission, Kearney actively participates in offering professional development programs to ensure their team is informed and well-prepared. They do this in a variety of ways:

- 1. Encourage their Team Members to join ASMC
- 2. Reward and publicly recognize employees who obtain their CDFM certification
- 3. Actively participate in ASMC organizations
- 4. Provide speakers for conferences and cover travel costs to ensure local chapters have qualified presenters
- 5. Are a corporate sponsor, which lowers the cost for ASMC members to attend critical training events.





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## **Washington Chapter**



### **Past Community Service Event**



# ASMC Early Careerist Community Service Event By Tommy Marrero Cartagena

The Washington Chapter of the American Society for Military Comptrollers (ASMC) participated in an event hosted by the Chesapeake & Ohio (C&O) Canal Trust National Historical Park and the National Park Services at Great Falls, Potomac, Maryland, on April 23, 2016. The group, about 15 chapter members, enjoyed 4 plus hours of adding new and fresh mulch to the park's picnic area and appreciated welcoming spring 2016. Afterwards the volunteers chowed down on some delicious BBQ! The event was part of one of many opportunities for ASMC Early Careerist activities to meet and fellowship. Keep a look out for upcoming community events and happy hours hosted by the Early Careerist.













Great Job!
Thanks for Volunteering!





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## **Washington Chapter**



### **Upcoming Community Service Opportunity**



June 10th 2016 12:45 PM - 4:15 PM **D.C Central Kitchen** 425 2nd street NW Washington DC 20001



Volunteer &

Please join your fellow ASMC Washington Chapter members as we volunteer at DC Central Kitchen (DCCK). DC Central Kitchen is America's leader in reducing hunger with recycled food, training unemployed adults for culinary careers, serving healthy school meals, and rebuilding urban food systems through social enterprise. Volunteers are needed to help in the basic food preparation including chopping, peeling, or washing food. Every day, volunteers like you help DCCK transform 3,000 pounds of donated food into 5,000 balanced meals that are distributed at little or no cost to 88 nearby homeless shelters, transitional homes, and nonprofit organizations, saving them money and nourishing their clients. Please visit

The ASMC Washington Chapter is looking for 15 volunteers to assist with preparing lunch on Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> 2016. Volunteers need to arrive by 12:45PM.

This location is metro accessible, located about a block from Judiciary Square on the red line. More logistics information will be given to the volunteers.

If you are interested in volunteering or have any questions please contact Ankita Maini at Ankita.Maini@us.pwc.com Space is limited to the first 15 volunteers. Do not miss this chance to help the homeless!





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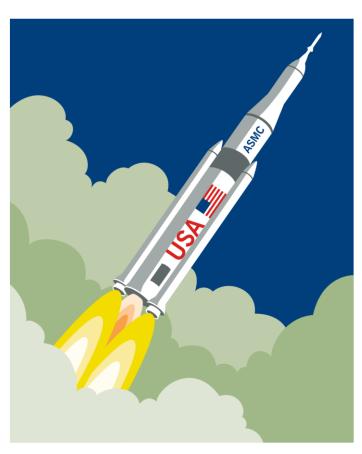
## **Washington Chapter**



### **ASMC National News**

## ASMC National 2016 PDI will be held June 1 – 3 in Orlando, FL

Register Now for PDI 2016 at www.pdi2016.org





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The National Professional Development Institute is the premier training event of the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC), and will take place June **1-3 in Orlando, Florida** (with Pre-PDI May 30-31). Defense financial managers in the public and private sectors will converge for the three-day event to enhance their resource management knowledge and skills, as well as share best practices toward meeting the complex challenges of today's fiscal environment.

The PDI 2016 program will include general and Service Day sessions, mini-courses, and workshops focused upon defense financial management competency areas. Speakers will discuss current issues in DoD and US Coast Guard financial management operations. importantly, the Mini-courses will provide participants the opportunity to obtain direct credit toward meeting certain DoD FM Certification requirements at Levels 2 and 3 of the program.

Beyond the 21 CPE credits available to attendees, the PDI provides a valuable forum for participants from Service HQs, major commands, and installation levels to collaborate with leadership, peers, vendors, and clients. This event also showcases individuals and teams who have been recognized by ASMC for their excellent contributions to the field of defense financial management.

Begin countdown... prepare to launch! Join us this June in Orlando and certify your future





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Save the Date:

# **ASMC & AGA Annual Golf Tournament** July 27, 2016

Ft. Belvoir Golf Club

We have both the Woodlawn and Gunston Courses The event begins with a **shotgun start at 0800** and concludes with a catered lunch at the clubhouse. The format is Captain's Choice (Scramble).

**ENTRY FEES:** (includes catered lunch, cart, greens fee & prizes)

#### **Individual Golfer Registration:**

\$50 for current government/Military Personnel \$110 for Corporate/Retiree participants.

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#### **Foursome Golfer Registration:**

ALL Current Government/Military: \$180 ALL Corporate/Retiree: \$400

#### 2016 Tournament Online Registration link:

https://secure3.rhq.com/ireg/public/index.cgi?evid=R16-07-27-ASMC

This event is organized by the ASMC Washington Chapter: http://www.washington-asmc.org

#### For event or sponsorship information, please contact:

Rita Finney (rfinney@savantage.net) / 301-938-8198 or Vonetta Vaughan (vvaughan@savantage.net)





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#### **CDFM Corner**

ASMC offers the Certified Defense Financial Manager (CDFM) educational program and certification designation to those persons desiring to demonstrate proficiency in the core aspects of Defense Financial Management.

For more information, visit: <a href="http://www.asmconline.org/certification/cdfm-information/">http://www.asmconline.org/certification/cdfm-information/</a>

### Congratulations to the Washington Chapter's Newest CDFMs!



Rana Al Ruzoug
Lawrence Anyanwu
Queenita Barnes
Doni Black Merrill
Lisa Burrell
Jerome Butler
Peter Burrowes
Shawn Dean

Jim Frank
Shliemann Gerlus
Nichole Glosson
Catherine Guajardo
David Hernandez
Li Li
Daniel McPartland
Kevin McFarlane

Carolyn Miller Danielle Mrla Gillian Savage Sarah Shuey Michael Teribury Vicky Trinh

Vicky Trinh Vernon Wall

While most candidates in the CDFM program are civilian or military/reserve members of the Department of Defense, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps or employees of defense contractors or suppliers, the CDFM program is open to <u>all candidates</u> who have a high school diploma (or equivalent) and meet the following work experience qualifications:

Have the required number of years of defense-related financial management experience outlined below:

- Two (2) years if you hold an Associate's degree or higher; or
- Three (3) years if you do not have a degree.

Do not have defense-related financial management experience, but can meet the following criteria outlined below:

- Four (4) years of Federal government-related financial management experience; and
- · An Associate's degree or higher.

#### There are three steps involved with earning your CDFM:

- 1. Enroll in the CDFM Program. Your enrollment is valid for two (2) years, during which time you must take, and successfully pass, the three CDFM module examinations.
- 2. Submit Your Verification of Financial Management Experience Form. This form, which must be signed by a supervisor who can verify your work experience, must be returned to ASMC after enrolling in the CDFM program. You do not have to submit this form prior to taking a CDFM examination, but it is <u>required</u> prior to the awarding of the CDFM designation.
- <u>3. Purchase and Schedule the CDFM Examinations</u>. Be sure to carefully and completely read the criteria associated with each testing option for the CDFM examinations. Failure to do so can result in the purchase of the wrong CDFM examination and/or the inability to test at your preferred location





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## **Washington Chapter**



### **Chapter Officers**



**President** Ms. Gretchen V. Anderson gretchen.v.anderson.civ@mail.mil 703-571-9206 President Elect Mr. Mats Persson mats.a.persson.civ@mail.mil 571-372-7167 Secretary Ms. Ginger Schmid ginger.l.schmid2.civ@mail.mil 703-614-6521

Treasurer Ms. Raquel Kuhfahl, raquel.kuhfahl@usmc.mil 571.256.2735

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Marine Corps Vice President Mr. Jonathan R. Newell, jonathan.r.newell@usmc.mil 571.256.8740 Marine Corps Assistant Secretary Ms. Sylvia Chapman, sylvia.a.chapman@usmc.mil 703-695-4747

Air Force Vice President Mr. Benjamin J Yarish, benjamin.j.yarish.civ@mail.mil 703-695-4442 Air Force Assistant Secretary Mr. Michael J. Harvey, benjamin.j.yarish.civ@mail.mil 703- 697-2907

Coast Guard Vice President LTJG Mark Sanchez, CDMF-A mark.m.sanchez@uscg.mil 202.475.5450 Coast Guard Assistant Secretary Mr. Andrew R Younkle, <a href="mailto:Andrew.R.Younkle@uscg.mil">Andrew.R.Younkle@uscg.mil</a> 202-475-5449

Corporate/Retiree Vice President Ms. Deb Del Mar, debra.delmar@vanguard-llc.com 703.593.6667 Corporate/Retiree Secretary Ms. Rita Finney, <a href="mailto:rfinney@savantage.net">rfinney@savantage.net</a> 301-938-8198





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### **Committee Chairs**

#### **Training and Education**

**Chair: Terry Placek and Millie Thompson** 

| Edson Barbosa       | CDFM                 | barbosaEN@state.gov        | 202-736-7357 |
|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Wendy Pouliot       | Awards/Essay Chair   | wendy.pouliot.civ@mail.mil | 703-697-0156 |
| Janice Hill         | Scholarship          | Janice.hill@usmc.mil       | 571 256-8810 |
| Milford E. Thompson | Luncheon             | milford.thompson@navy.mil  | 202-685-1524 |
| Terry Placek        | Training & Education | terryplacek@yahoo.com      | 703-599-4514 |

#### **PDI**

**Chair: Deb Delmar** 

Vacant PDI Silent Auction

Deb Delmar Regional PDI <u>debra.delmar@vanguard-llc.com</u> 703-593-6667

### **Outreach and Publicity**

**Chair: Wayne Whiten and Jeff Norris** 

| Veniceza "Vee" Critton | Competition       | veniceza.g.critton.civ@mail.mil | 703-695-6458 |
|------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Jeff Norris            | Community Service | jnorris@kpmg.com                | 202-533-4024 |
| Dan Olden              | Membership        | dolden@kpmg.com                 | 202-533-5183 |
| Rocky Wilber           | Photographer      | rocky.wilber@dfas.mil           | 571-372-7190 |
| Michael Monson         | Newsletter Editor | monsonm@get-integrated.com      | 571-481-4901 |
| Wayne Whiten           | Webmaster         | wayne.whiten@calibresys.com     | 703-797-8831 |

#### **Audit**

Chair: David Zavada, dzavada@kearneyco.com / 703-931-5600

### Nominating

Chair: vacant

| Cynthia Curry         | DOD VP               | cynthia.l.curry.civ@mail.mil        | 703-697-4542 |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Cynthia Crippen-Black | Army VP              | cynthia.d.crippenblack.civ@mail.mil | 703-692-5746 |
| Robin Farley          | Navy VP              | robin.farley1@navy.mil              | 202-433-3499 |
| Jane Roberts          | USMC VP              | jane.roberts@usmc.mil               | 703-955-1469 |
| Benjamin J Yarish     | Air Force VP         | benjamin.j.yarish.civ@mail.mil      | 703-695-4442 |
| LT Sanchez            | USCG VP              | mark.m.sanchez@uscg.mil             | 202-475-5450 |
| Deb Delmar            | Corporate/Retired VP | debra.delmar@vanguard-llc.com       | 703-593-6667 |



